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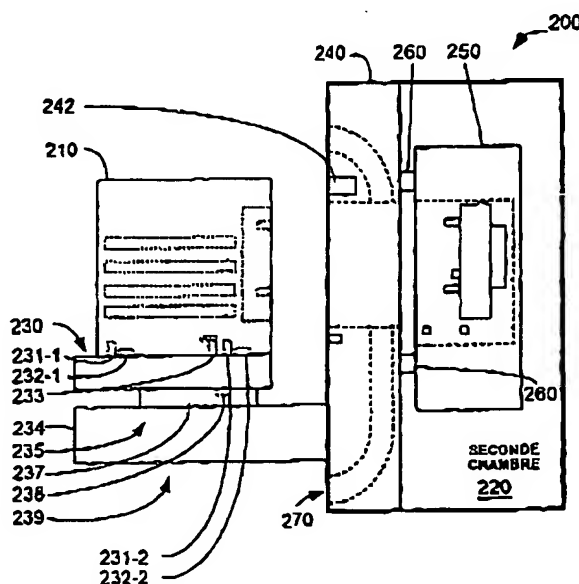
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(54) Title: LOADPORT APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR USE THEREOF



(57) Abstract: A loadport apparatus for conditioning the interior of a FOUF having a FOUF door. The apparatus includes platform, a housing, an loadport door, a loadport door seal and a conditioning system. The FOUF platform receives the FOUF. The housing is configured for sealably engaging the FOUF. The loadport door includes a FOUF door access mechanism for opening the FOUF. The loadport door is movable between an open position and a closed position. The loadport door seal selectively seals the opening from the second chamber when the loadport door is in the closed position. The conditioning system communicates with the opening for conditioning a mini-environment chamber defined by the loadport door, the seal, the opening, and an interior of the FOUF when the loadport door is in the closed position, the loadport door seal is sealed, and the FOUF door is open. A method is also disclosed.

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(74) Agents: **SWLATEK, Maria, S. et al.**; Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Suite 3400, 4 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111 (US).

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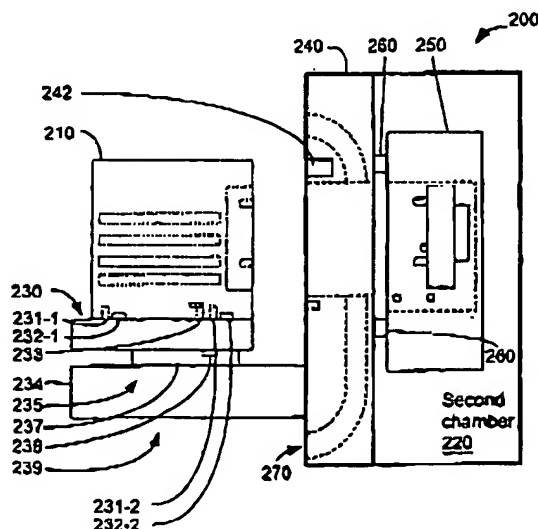
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(54) Title: **LOADPORT APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR USE THEREOF**



(57) Abstract: A loadport apparatus for conditioning the interior of a FOUN having a FOUN door. The apparatus includes platform, a housing, an loadport door, a loadport door seal and a conditioning system. The FOUN platform receives the FOUN. The housing includes an opening to a second chamber. The housing is configured for sealably engaging the FOUN. The loadport door includes a FOUN door access mechanism for opening the FOUN. The loadport door is movable between an open position and a closed position. The loadport door seal selectively seals the opening from the second chamber when the loadport door is in the closed position. The conditioning system communicates with the opening for conditioning a mini-environment chamber defined by the loadport door, the seal, the opening, and an interior of the FOUN when the loadport door is in the closed position, the loadport door seal is sealed, and the FOUN door is open. A method is also disclosed.

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